

**INFORMAL CONFIDENTIAL REPORT**

CD NO.

COUNTRY Argentina

DATE DISTR. 23 Mar 1949

SUBJECT Geronimo Arnedo Alvarez' Comments on Political Situation and Printers' Strike

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PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF INFO

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

1. On 18 February 1949 prominent leaders of the Communist Party of Argentina (CPA), members of the CPA press committee and staff members of the Communist newspapers La Hora and Espana Independiente, attended a special meeting held in the central office of the CPA. 25X1X6
2. Geronimo Arnedo Alvarez, Secretary General of the CPA, was the principal speaker at this meeting. The following is a synopsis of his remarks:
- The Argentine government, in spite of its nationalist declarations, is at the mercy of Yankee imperialism and will soon be subservient to the economic orientation of the United States. Argentina will be delivered to the Yankee oligarchy as a result of a forthcoming loan from the United States. The government will attempt to conceal this fact, but the actual situation should be exposed as soon as the newspaper strike ends.
  - The government's action in declaring the current printers' strike illegal is an injustice. The Secretariat of Labor is not anxious to bring the strike to an end, as the absence of newspapers provides a smokescreen behind which the government can conceal the current grave political crisis which is being converted into a Yankee triumph against national sovereignty, while the Communists are blamed for inspiring the strike. This is a professional strike but the Communists support it completely and are ready to lend whatever aid is necessary to gain a victory for the strikers.
  - The government has taken advantage of the strike to quiet opposition to constitutional reform, to conceal news of other strikes such as the one in the dairy industry, and also to conceal the forthcoming increases in railroad rates.
  - The printers' strike was not promoted by Communists, as has been alleged in government propaganda, for the majority of the strikers were members of the Peronista Party. The strike will not end until the hundreds of people who have been imprisoned, many of whom are Communists, are released.

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- e. The dissident Communist group which is headed by Aurelio Bracco should be exposed for its treason to the cause. Members of Bracco's movement had called on the president's Administrative Secretary and offered their support.
3. The same Communist group was scheduled to hold another meeting on 25 February at which time they were to continue the discussion of the printers' strike.

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